

State of California  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, March 15, 2012, 9:00 a.m.  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region  
Board Room  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

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The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, was called to order by Chair Ellen Way at 9:04 a.m. on March 15, 2012 at Palm Desert, California.

Roll Call (Board Members Only)

**Board Members Present:**

Buford Crites, Tom Davis, Jeff Hays, Edward Muzik, Ellen Way.

The Board Secretary stated that a quorum was present.

**Staff Present:**

Jose Angel, Terry Barnes, John Carmona, Mary Castañeda, Kai Dunn, Roselyn Fleming, Abdi Haile, Theresa Kimsey, Robert Perdue, Jonathan Rokke, Joan Stormo, Soni Wells.

**Others Present:**

Stephen Charlton, Imperial Irrigation District  
Sarann Graham, Hi-Desert Water District Board President  
Jennifer Henke, Coachella Valley Mosquito Vector Control District  
Luis Olmedo, Executive Director, Comité Civico del Valle  
Ivory Reyburn, Coachella Valley Water District  
Ed Smith, Palo Verde Irrigation District  
Tom Vandenberg, State Water Board, Office of the Chief Counsel

## **MINUTES**

1. Minutes of January 19, 2012 Board Meeting

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Tom Davis seconded, and motion carried unanimously that the Minutes be adopted.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

2. Sarann Graham, President of the Hi-Desert Water District Board of Directors, gave an update on the District's progress on developing a wastewater treatment and collection system and obtaining financing for the project. Ms. Graham wished to thank, in particular, the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Finance staff for their highly responsive and impressively knowledgeable help of the District. Additionally, Ms. Graham acknowledged the continued assistance and support from the Regional Board staff.

## **UNCONTESTED NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMITS AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS**

3. R7-2012-0018 Rescission of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and/or Waste Discharge Requirements for **US Navy Vacuum Enhanced Pumping Groundwater Treatment System NAF**, El Centro — Imperial County, **US Bureau of Reclamation, Parker Dam Sewage Treatment Plant**, Parker Dam — San Bernardino County

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0018 be adopted.

4. R7-2012-0021 Change of Name and/or Ownership of Facilities Having Waste Discharge Requirements **Truckhaven Geothermal Project**, South of Salton City — Imperial County, **Truckhaven Geothermal Exploratory Well** — Imperial County

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Jeff Hays seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0021 be adopted with errata.

## **RESOLUTION**

5. R7-2012-0022 Resolution in **Support of Technical Advisory Committee's Draft Strategic Plan for the New River Improvement Project**

Jose Angel, Assistant Executive Officer, made a presentation to the Board concerning the Draft Strategic Plan for the New River Improvement Project, the Plan's main recommendations, including prioritizing trash-screening and disinfection facilities for the Calexico area, and potential funding sources for implementing the recommendations. Stephen Charlton from the Imperial Irrigation District, who served as the Chair of the TAC's Remediation Workgroup, spoke in support of the Regional Board's adoption of the Resolution. Luis Olmedo, Executive Director of Comité Civico del Valle, who also served as a member of the TAC, also spoke in support of the Regional Board's adoption of the Resolution, and thanked the Board and its staff for their overall support in dealing with environmental issues in the Imperial and Coachella Valleys.

**MOTION:** Buford Crites moved, Ed Muzik seconded, and motion carried unanimously that Order No. R7-2012-0022 be adopted.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

6. Informational Update on Palo Verde Agricultural Wastewater Discharges Prohibition Basin Plan Amendment – JA

Tom Vandenberg, Regional Board Staff Counsel, and Jose Angel, AEO, discussed the State Water Board's decision to disapprove the Prohibition and to remand it back to the Regional Board, and the options available to the Regional Board in light of the remand, including adoption of Waste Discharge Requirements, or a Waiver of same, in lieu or in addition to, the Prohibition. Following the discussion, the Regional Board recommended staff begin working with affected stakeholders in the Palo Verde and Mesa Areas and start drafting a Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for future consideration of adoption.

7. Appreciation to Soni Wells for 25 years of Exemplary State Service – RP

The Board thanked Ms. Wells for her years of State service.

8. Informational Update on State Water Resources Control Board Activities — TV

(See hand-out)

9. Colorado River Basin Water Board Executive Officer's Report — RP

Robert Perdue, EO, described ongoing legislative activities concerning consolidation of the Colorado River Basin Regional Board, RB7, with other Regional Boards. Additionally, Mr. Perdue reminded the Board that early submittal of applications to the Governor's office for reappointment is preferable for those three Members whose terms expire on September 30, 2012.

10. Colorado River Basin Water Board Member Comments

Board Member Tom Davis stated he had attended an interesting seminar on the Colorado River's "Law of the River".

11. Colorado River Basin Water Board Chair's Report — EW

Chair Ellen Way said she will be attending the March 25, 2012 SWRCB/RB Chairs' Meeting at CAL-EPA in Sacramento.

**CLOSED SESSION**

12. At any time during the regular session, the Board may adjourn to meet in closed session to consider evidence received in an adjudicatory hearing and deliberate on a decision to be reached based on that evidence [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(c)(3)]; to discuss significant exposure to litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(B)(i)]; to discuss whether to initiate litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)(C)(i)]; or to discuss initiated litigation [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)]. Discussion of litigation is within the attorney-client privilege and may be held in closed session [Authority: Government Code Section 11126(e)(2)].

No closed session items were discussed.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, May 17, 2012,  
9:00 a.m., in Palm Desert**

**Adjournment: 11:32 a.m.**

**MOTION:** Motion carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.